

NUM

NULL. *n. f.* Something of no power, or no meaning. Marks in ciphered writing which stand for nothing, and are inserted only to puzzle, are called *nulls*.

If part of the people be somewhat in the election, you cannot make them *nulls* or ciphers in the privation or translation. *Bacon's War with Spain.*

NULLITY. *n. f.* [from *nullus*, Latin.] The state of being nowhere.

To **NULLIFY.** *v. a.* [from *nullus*, Latin.] To annul; to make void.

NULLITY. *n. f.* [nullité, French.]

1. Want of force or efficacy. It can be no part of my business to overthrow this distinction, and to shew the nullity of it; which has been solidly done by most of our polemick writers. *South's Sermons.*

The jurisdiction is opened by the party, in default of justice from the ordinary, as by appeals or nullities. *Ayliffe.*

2. Want of existence.

A hard body struck against another hard body, will yield an exterior sound, in so much as if the percussion be over soft, it may induce a nullity of sound; but never an interior sound. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*

NUMB. *adj.* [benumen, benumbed, Saxon.]

1. Torpid; deprived in a great measure of the power of motion and sensation; chill; motionless.

Like a stony statue, cold and numb. *Shakespeare.* Leaning long upon any part maketh it numb and asleep; for that the compression of the part suffereth not the spirits to have free access; and therefore when we come out of it, we feel a stinging or pricking, which is the re-entrance of the spirits. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*

2. Producing chillness; benumbing. When we both lay in the field, Frozen almost to death, how he did lap me Ev'n in his garments, and did give himself All thin and naked to the numb cold night. *Shakef.*

To **NUMB.** *v. a.* To make torpid; to make dull of motion or sensation; to deaden; to stupefy.

Bedlam beggars, with roaring voices Strike in their numb'd and mortify'd bare arms, Pins, wooden pricks, nails, sprigs of rosemary; And with this horrible object, from low farms, Inforce their charity. *Shakef. K. Lear.*

She can unlock The clasping charm, and thaw the numbing spell. *Milt.* Plough naked, fawn, and naked sow the land, For lazy winter numbs the lab'ring hand. *Dryden.*

Nought shall avail The pleasing song, or well repeated tale, When the quick spirits their warm march forbear, And numbing coldness has unbrac'd the ear. *Prior.* The fool numbs me like the torpor. *Bolingb. to Swift.*

NUMBEDNESS. *n. f.* [from *numbed*.] Torpor; interruption of sensation.

If the nerve be quite divided, the pain is little, only a kind of stupor or numbedness. *Wise's Surgery.*

To **NUMBER.** *v. a.* [numbrer, French; *numero*, Latin.]

1. To count; to tell; to reckon how many. If a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered. *Gen. xiii. 16.*

Number them by their armies. *Numbers i. 3.* I will number you to the sword. *Is. lxx. 12.*

The gold, the vest, the tripods number'd o'er, All these he found. *Pope's Odyssey, b. 13.*

2. To reckon as one of the same kind. He was numbered with the transgressors, and bare the sin of many. *Is. liii. 12.*

NUMBER. *n. f.* [nombre, French; *numerus*, Latin.]

1. The species of quantity by which it is computed how many.

Hye thee, from this slaughter-house, Left thou increase the number of the dead. *Sha. Rich. III.*

The silver, the gold, and the vessels, were weighed by number and by weight. *Ezra viii. 34.*

Thou shalt take a few in number, and bind them in thy skirts. *Ezek. v. 3.*

There is but one gate for strangers to enter at, that it may be known what numbers of them are in the town. *Addison.*

2. Any particular aggregate of units, as even or odd.

This is the third time; I hope good luck lies in odd numbers: they say there is divinity in odd numbers, either in nativity, chance, or death. *Shakespeare's M. W. of Wind.*

3. Many; more than one.

Much of that we are to speak may seem to a number perhaps tedious, perhaps obscure, dark, and intricate. *Hocher.*

Water lily hath a root in the ground; and so have a number of other herbs that grow in ponds. *Bacon.*

Ladies are always of great use to the party they espouse, and never fail to win over numbers. *Addison.*

4. Multitude that may be counted.

Of him came nations and tribes out of number. *2 Esd. iii. 7.*

Loud as from numbers without number. *Milton.*

5. Comparative multitude.

Nimble itself importeth not much in armies, where the

people are of weak courage: for, as Virgil says, it never troubles a wolf how many the sheep be. *Bacon.*

6. Aggregated multitude.

If you will, some few of you shall see the place; and then you may send for your sick, and the rest of your number, which ye will bring on land. *Bacon's N. Atlantic.*

7. Harmony; proportions calculated by number.

They, as they move Their starry dance in numbers that compute Days, months, and years, towards his all-cheering lamp, Turn swift. *Milton.*

8. Verses; poetry.

Should the muses bid my numbers roll Strong as their charms. *Pope.*

9. [In grammar.]

In the noun is the variation or change of termination to signify a number more than one. When men first invented names, their application was to single things; but soon finding it necessary to speak of several things of the same kind together, they found it likewise necessary to vary or alter the noun. *Clark's Lat. Grammar.*

How many numbers is in nouns? —

Two. *Shakespeare's Merry W. of Windsor.*

NUMBERER. *n. f.* [from *number*.] He who numbers.

NUMBERLESS. *adj.* [from *number*.] Innumerable; more than can be reckoned.

I forgive all; There cannot be those numberless offences 'Gainst me. *Shakespeare.*

About his chariot numberless were pour'd Cherub and seraph. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*

Defers to great, Though numberless, I never shall forget. *Denham.*

The soul conveys with numberless beings of her own creation. *Addison's Spectator, N. 488.*

He travels then a hundred leagues, And suffers numberless fatigues. *Swift's Miscell.*

NUMBLES. *n. f.* [numbles, Fr.] The entrails of a deer. *Bailly.*

NUMBNESS. *n. f.* [from *numb*.] Torpor; interruption of action or sensation; deadness; stupefaction.

Stir, nay, come away; Bequeath to death your numbness; for from him Dear life redeems you. *Shakespeare's Winter's Tale.*

'Till length of years And sedentary numbness craze my limbs To a contemptible old age obscure. *Milt. Agon.*

Cold numbness strait bereaves Her corps of sense, and th' air her soul receives. *Denham.*

Silence is worse than the fiercest and loudest accusations; since it may proceed from a kind of numbness or stupidity of conscience, and an absolute dominion obtained by sin over the soul, so that it shall not so much as dare to complain, or make a stir. *South's Sermons.*

NUMERABLE. *adj.* [numerabilis, Latin.] Capable to be numbered.

NUMERAL. *adj.* [numeral, Fr. from *numerus*, Latin.] Relating to number; consisting of number.

Some who cannot retain the several combinations of numbers in their distinct orders, and the dependence of so long a train of numeral progressions, are not able all their life time regularly to go over any moderate series of numbers. *Locke.*

NUMERALLY. *adv.* [from *numeral*.] According to number.

The blasts and undulatory breaths thereof, maintain no certainty in their course; nor are they numerally fear'd by navigators. *Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. vii.*

NUMERARY. *adj.* [numerus, Lat.] Any thing belonging to a certain number.

A supernumerary canon, when he obtains a prebend, becomes a numerary canon. *Ayliffe's Paragon.*

NUMERATION. *n. f.* [numeration, Fr. *numeration*, Latin.]

1. The art of numbering.

Numeration is but still the adding of one unite more, and giving to the whole a new name or sign, whereby to know it from those before and after. *Locke.*

2. Number contained.

In the legs or organs of progression in animals, we may observe an equality of length, and parity of numeration. *Brown.*

3. The rule of arithmetic which teaches the notation of numbers, and method of reading numbers regularly noted.

NUMERATOR. *n. f.* [Latin.]

1. He that numbers.

2. [Numerateur, Fr.] That number which serves as the common measure to others.

NUMERICAL. *adj.* [from *numerus*, Latin.]

1. Numeral; denoting number; pertaining to numbers. The numerical characters are helps to the memory, to record and retain the several ideas about which the demonstration is made. *Locke.*

2. The same not only in kind or species, but number. Contemplate upon his astonishing works, particularly in the resurrection and reparation of the same numerical body, by a re-union of all the scattered parts. *NUMERICALLY.*

NUM

people are of weak courage: for, as Virgil says, it never troubles a wolf how many the sheep be. *Bacon.*

6. Aggregated multitude.

If you will, some few of you shall see the place; and then you may send for your sick, and the rest of your number, which ye will bring on land. *Bacon's N. Atlantic.*

7. Harmony; proportions calculated by number.

They, as they move

Their starry dance in numbers that compute

Days, months, and years, towards his all-cheering lamp,

Turn swift. *Milton.*

8. Verses; poetry.

Should the muses bid my numbers roll

Strong as their charms. *Pope.*

9. [In grammar.]

In the noun is the variation or change of termination to

signify a number more than one. When men first invented

names, their application was to single things; but soon find-

ing it necessary to speak of several things of the same kind

together, they found it likewise necessary to vary or alter the

noun. *Clark's Lat. Grammar.*

How many numbers is in nouns? —

Two. *Shakespeare's Merry W. of Windsor.*

NUMBERER. *n. f.* [from *number*.] He who numbers.

NUMBERLESS. *adj.* [from *number*.] Innumerable; more than

can be reckoned.

I forgive all;

There cannot be those numberless offences

'Gainst me. *Shakespeare.*

About his chariot numberless were pour'd

Cherub and seraph. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*

Defers to great,

Though numberless, I never shall forget. *Denham.*

The soul conveys with numberless beings of her own crea-

tion. *Addison's Spectator, N. 488.*

He travels then a hundred leagues,

And suffers numberless fatigues. *Swift's Miscell.*

NUMBLES. *n. f.* [numbles, Fr.] The entrails of a deer. *Bailly.*

NUMBNESS. *n. f.* [from *numb*.] Torpor; interruption of action

or sensation; deadness; stupefaction.

Stir, nay, come away;

Bequeath to death your numbness; for from him

Dear life redeems you. *Shakespeare's Winter's Tale.*

'Till length of years

And sedentary numbness craze my limbs

To a contemptible old age obscure. *Milt. Agon.*

Cold numbness strait bereaves

Her corps of sense, and th' air her soul receives. *Denham.*

Silence is worse than the fiercest and loudest accusations;

since it may proceed from a kind of numbness or stupidity of

conscience, and an absolute dominion obtained by sin over

the soul, so that it shall not so much as dare to complain, or

make a stir. *South's Sermons.*

NUMERABLE. *adj.* [numerabilis, Latin.] Capable to be num-

bered.

NUMERAL. *adj.* [numeral, Fr. from *numerus*, Latin.] Relating

to number; consisting of number.

Some who cannot retain the several combinations of num-

bers in their distinct orders, and the dependence of so long

a train of numeral progressions, are not able all their life time

regularly to go over any moderate series of numbers. *Locke.*

NUMERALLY. *adv.* [from *numeral*.] According to number.

The blasts and undulatory breaths thereof, maintain no cer-

tainty in their course; nor are they numerally fear'd by na-

vigators. *Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. vii.*

NUMERARY. *adj.* [numerus, Lat.] Any thing belonging to a

certain number.

A supernumerary canon, when he obtains a prebend, be-

comes a numerary canon. *Ayliffe's Paragon.*

NUMERATION. *n. f.* [numeration, Fr. *numeration*, Latin.]

1. The art of numbering.

Numeration is but still the adding of one unite more, and

giving to the whole a new name or sign, whereby to know

it from those before and after. *Locke.*

2. Number contained.

In the legs or organs of progression in animals, we may ob-

serve an equality of length, and parity of numeration. *Brown.*

3. The rule of arithmetic which teaches the notation of num-

bers, and method of reading numbers regularly noted.

NUMERATOR. *n. f.* [Latin.]

1. He that numbers.

2. [Numerateur, Fr.] That number which serves as the common

measure to others.

NUMERICAL. *adj.* [from *numerus*, Latin.]

1. Numeral; denoting number; pertaining to numbers.

The numerical characters are helps to the memory, to re-

cord and retain the several ideas about which the demonstra-

tion is made. *Locke.*

2. The same not only in kind or species, but number.

Contemplate upon his astonishing works, particularly in

the resurrection and reparation of the same numerical body,

by a re-union of all the scattered parts. *NUMERICALLY.*

7

NUP

NUMERICALLY. *adv.* [from *numerical*.] Respecting fame-ness in number.

I must think it improbable, that the sulphur of antimony would be but numerically different from the distilled butter or oil of roses. *Boyle.*

NUMERIST. *n. f.* [from *numerus*, Latin.] One that deals in numbers.

We cannot assign a respective fatality unto each which is concordant unto the doctrine of the numerists. *Brown.*

NUMEROSITY. *n. f.* [from *numerosus*, Latin.]

1. Number; the state of being numerous.

Of assertion if numerosity of assertions were a sufficient demonstration, we might sit down herein as an unquestionable truth. *Brown's V. Errours.*

2. Harmony; numerous flow.

NUMEROUS. *adj.* [numerosus, Latin.]

1. Containing many; consisting of many; not few; many.

Queen Elizabeth was not so much observed for having a numerous, as a wise council. *Bacon.*

We reach our foes,

Who now appear so numerous and bold. *Waller.*

2. Harmonious; consisting of parts rightly numbered; melodious; musical.

Thy heart, no rider than the rugged stone,

I might, like Orpheus, with my num'rous moan

Melt to compassion. *Waller.*

His verses are so numerous, so various, and so harmonious,

that only Virgil, whom he professedly imitated, has surpassed him. *Dryden.*

NUMEROUSNESS. *n. f.* [from *numerosus*.]

1. The quality of being numerous.

2. Harmony; musicalness.

That which will distinguish his style is, the numerosness of his verse. There is nothing so delicately turned in all the Roman language. *Dryden.*

NUMMARY. *adj.* [from *nummus*, Latin.] Relating to money.

The money drachma in process of time decreas'd; but all the while the ponderal drachma continued the same, just as our ponderal remains as it was, though the nummary hath much decreas'd. *Arbutnot on Coins.*

NUMMULAR. *adj.* [nummularius, Latin.] Relating to money.

NUMSKULL. *n. f.* [Probably from *numb*, dull, torpid, insen-

sible, and *skull*.]

1. A dullard; a dunce; a dolt; a blockhead.

On toes and fingers, in this case,

Of Numskulls self should take the place. *Prior.*

2. The head. In burlesque.

They have talked like numskulls. *Arb. and Pope.*

NUMSKULLED. *adj.* [from *numskull*.] Dull; stupid; doltish.

Hocus has faved that clod-pated, numskulled, ninnyhammer of yours from ruin, and all his family. *J. Bull.*

NUN.